

REMARKS:

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9, 11-13, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22-24, 26 and 27. Claims 1, 5, 9, 16, 18-20, 26 and 27 are amended herein, and new claim 28 is added. Claims 10, 15, 17 and 21 remain cancelled. Proper support for the amendments can be found at least at page 41, lines 4-7 and FIGS. 4-13 of the present application. No new matter is presented.

Thus, claims 1-9, 11-14, 16, 18-20 and 22-28 are pending and under consideration. The rejections are traversed below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e):

Claims 1, 5, 9, 11-13, 16, 18-20, 22-24, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,088,481 (Okamoto).

Okamoto edits a handwritten character by directly writing a character at an arbitrary position in a window displayed by an existing application program without changing the application program (see, col. 7, lines 3-16 and FIGS. 4B and 5A). For example, handwriting displayed at a handwriting position in a prescribed area when a character is input is erased upon an erasing request and the display returns the screen to a state before handwriting (see, col. 7, lines 2-6 and 10-16). That is, Okamoto is limited to displaying handwriting inputted and erasing the handwriting.

The present invention includes a first mode executing a function without displaying a marker indicative of a detection of a touch operation and a second mode displaying the marker indicative of the detection of the touch operation without executing the function of the touch operation. For example, a mark (21) is not limited to a mouse cursor following the movement of the mouse (8), instead, a mark (corresponding to the marker) may pinpoint a position when a button of the mouse (8) is pressed down or clicked (see, FIG. 7 and corresponding text).

Independent claims 1, 5, 18, 19 and 26 recite, "a first mode... settable to provide a first function corresponding to the touch operation including a touch position without displaying a predetermined shape marker indicative of a detection of a touch in the touch" and "a second mode settable to provide a second function of displaying the predetermined shape marker indicative of the detection of the touch in the touch position without executing the first function corresponding to the touch operation including the touch position" ("execution mode" and "display mode" in claim 5).

Independent claim 27 recites, "switchably processing information of a touch operation

having a touch position”, where “a first mode executes a function without displaying a predetermined shape marker indicative of a detection of the touch position” and “a second mode [displays] the predetermined shape marker without executing the function of the touch operation”.

Okamoto does not teach or suggest the above-indicated features of independent claims 1, 5, 18, 19, 26 and 27.

It is submitted that the independent claims are patentable over Okamoto.

For at least the above-mentioned reasons, claims depending from the independent claims are patentably distinguishable over Okamoto. The dependent claims are also independently patentable. For example, as recited in claim 9, “said display control unit erases the marker after the marker has been displayed for a predetermined time”. The Okamoto method does not teach or suggest these features of claim 9.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Claims 2-4 and 6-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okamoto and U.S. Patent No. 5,428,417 (Lichtenstein).

The acknowledges that Okamoto does not teach or suggest a touch display tablet connected to a display device via a connecting module, but relies on Lichtenstein as teaching the same. Lichtenstein is directed to enhancing description of a projected graphics by superimposing icons on the projected graphics for brining attention to specific sections of the projected graphics. For example, highlighting a mathematical equation that is included in a projected graphics. That is, Lichtenstein simply magnifies a selected portion of a projected graphics.

Claims 2, 4, 6 and 8 recite, “a connecting module connecting a display device displaying information in addition to said operation screen unit”, where “a marker indicating a detection of the touch in at least one of a touch position and a display position determined based on the touch operation if the touch operation is detected” is displayed.

Claims 3 and 7 recite, “said first display control unit executes the control so that the information is exclusively displayed” on any one of “said display device” and/or “said operation screen unit”.

Okamoto and Lichtenstein, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-

identified features recited in claims 2-4 and 6-8.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 28 has been added to recite, "a first mode having a function upon detection of a touch operation in an operation window displaying a first content" and "a second mode displaying a marker indicating a location of the touch position including coordinates thereof upon the detection of the touch operation to enable a second content to be displayed in the operation window".

Okamoto and Lichtenstein, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest, "a first mode" and "a second mode displaying a marker indicating a location of the touch position including coordinates thereof upon the detection of the touch operation to enable a second content to be displayed in the operation window", as recited in new claim 28.

It is submitted that new claim 28 is patentably distinguishable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

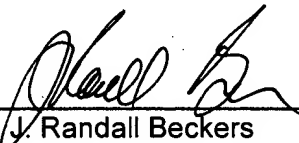
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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